

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Official Action dated March 17, 2008. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended; as such, claims 1-8 remain pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5 are independent claims. Reconsideration and allowance is requested in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks.

No new matter has been added by this Amendment. Support for the amended and new claims can be found in the specification as filed. For example, support for the feature described in connection with the “[o]pen curve electronic circuit” is found in Fig. 3 and the paragraph 0024 of the specification.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 5,220,443 to Noguchi et al. (“Noguchi”).

Claim 1 recites:

Open curve electronic circuit wiring laid so as to surround a main circuit formed and opened at one location on a board in order to protect the main circuit from static electricity and laid so as to include a cross region partially crossing other wiring via an insulation film, comprising:

a start point terminal,

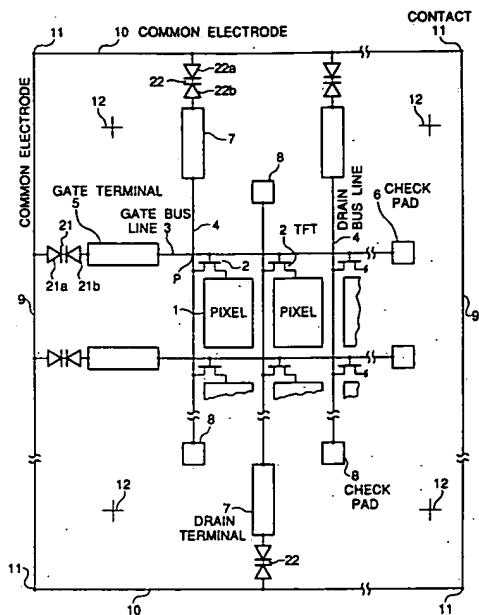
an end point terminal arranged on the start point terminal side via the cross region, and

a resistor element,

the resistor element being connected to the start point terminal side with respect to the cross region.

With respect to claim 1, Noguchi fails to teach or suggest “[o]pen curve electronic circuit wiring laid so as to surround a main circuit formed and opened at one location on a board in order

to protect the main circuit from static electricity and laid so as to include a cross region partially crossing other wiring via an insulation film."



Noguchi discloses "gate terminal 5" as a start terminal, "drain terminal 7" as an end terminal, and "drain bus line 4" as other wiring. Further, the reference of Noguchi discloses that "non-linear resistor element 21" as a resistor element is arranged at the start terminal side as against "intersection P".

However, the wiring disclosed in Noguchi is formed in order to drive TFTs 2, which control each pixel and not *to protect the main circuit from static electricity*.

Accordingly, the wiring and implementation differs from the open circuit wiring of the present invention.

This is evident by the common electrode 10 of Noguchi, which the Office Action cites as the "*electronic circuit wiring laid so as to surround a main circuit*", which is not an "*[o]pen curve electronic circuit*" and is not "*opened at one location on a board*". Instead, the common electrode 10 forms a complete closed circuit around the perimeter of the disclosed display matrix.

Furthermore, given the layout necessary for an open curved circuit, gate terminal 5 and drain terminal 7 of Noguchi cannot serve as starting and ending terminals because they are not positioned at the start or end of an open circuit.

Noguchi, therefore, fails to teach or suggest various features of independent claim 1. For similar reasons, independent claim 5 is also neither taught nor suggested by Noguchi (although claims 1 and 5 should be interpreted solely based upon the limitations set forth therein). Furthermore, at least for the reason disclosed above, claims 2-4 and 6-10 overcome Noguchi because they depend on independent claims 1 and 5.

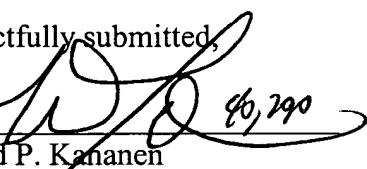
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 80061-0039 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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